



Keith Chapman
Town Manager

TOWN OF NEWINGTON

200 Garfield Street Newington, Connecticut 06111

Office of Emergency Management

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE



Meghan L. Manke
Emergency Management
Director

TOWN OF NEWINGTON – RE-OPENING PLAN

In response to a recent decrease in Newington's cases of COVID-19, the Town Manager has authorized a systematic, gradual re-opening of town buildings to the public.

As our COVID-19 positivity rates will likely continue to fluctuate, the re-opening of town buildings will be done systematically and in Phases. The purpose of this approach is to ensure continuity of services, with limited interruption and disturbance should we need to revert to or advance between Phases, as well as to ensure the ongoing health and safety of both the public and our employees.

Although our positivity rates currently put us in the "yellow", the decision has been made to continue with a phased approach to opening our buildings to the public to ensure a smooth transition. Starting **Monday, May 3rd** we will be implementing "**Phase II/Orange**". Should our positivity rates remain in the Yellow next week, we will transition to "Phase III/Yellow" on Monday, May 12th.

Beyond this first week, which phase we implement will be determined by the positivity rates released at 4pm on Thursday afternoons. An official notice of a change in status will be made by Emergency Management staff when it occurs, in the form of a press release.

The attached graphic outlines the re-opening policies that will apply in all town buildings across each Phase. Please note, some departments have building-specific policies that should be reviewed prior to visiting.

Re-opening plans are subject to change, and will be updated and reviewed by Emergency Management staff as needed, in coordination with the Town Manager and Central Connecticut Health District (CCHD).

We are encouraged and excited about the decreased positivity rates in our community, as well as by the prospect of re-opening our doors to the public. We ask for your patience and understanding as town staff work to make this transition, and encourage you to continue exercising caution so as to keep you, your families, and our community as a whole safe.

Meghan L. Manke, Emergency Management Director

PHASE	<i>Mask Covering Both Nose & Mouth Required (subject to changed based on Executive Order)</i>	<i>Social Distancing & Frequent Handwashing Recommended</i>	<i>Routine Cleaning of Private Workspaces</i>	<i>Routine/Daily Cleaning of Common Areas</i>	<i>Public Access to Municipal Buildings / Offices¹</i>	<i>Public Access to Newington Human Services²</i>	<i>Public Access to Newington Parks & Recreation Department³</i>	<i>Public Access to Newington Senior & Disabled Center⁴</i>	<i>Public Access to Lucy Robbins Welles Library⁵</i>
RED	✓	✓	✓	✓	All town buildings closed to public ¹	Closed to public; services will be available virtually, curbside, etc. ²	Closed to public; virtual programming, curbside & online registration offered ³	Closed to public; virtual programming offered ⁴	Closed to public; virtual & curbside services offered ⁵
ORANGE	✓	✓	✓	✓	Doors locked – employee access only. Public access by appt. only. Must complete screening & provide contact tracing info. ¹	<i>Will not proceed with this until May 10, unless still in the Red.</i> In-person services offered on limited basis; appt. required. Must complete screening & provide contact tracing info. ²	Doors locked – employee access only. Public access for scheduled programming only. Must complete screening & provide contact tracing info. ³	In-person services expand – by appt. only. Must complete screening & provide contact tracing info. ⁴	1st floor open for browsing, 2 nd floor by appointment only. Must complete screening & provide contact tracing info. ⁵
YELLOW	✓	✓	✓	✓	Doors unlocked to public. Appt. encouraged, but not required. Must complete screening & provide contact tracing info. ¹	<i>Same as “Orange” – subject to change.</i> Must complete screening & provide contact tracing info. ²	Doors unlocked; building open to those attending scheduled programs & for registration only. Must complete screening & provide contact tracing info. ³	In-person services expand – by appt. only. Must complete screening & provide contact tracing info. ⁴	All areas open to public for browsing, no appt. required. Meeting rooms, leisure seating will become available. Must complete screening & provide contact tracing info. ⁵
GRAY	✓	✓	✓	✓	Doors unlocked to public. Appt. encouraged, but not required. Screening & contact tracing info no longer required ¹	<i>Same as “Orange” – subject to change.</i> Screening & contact tracing info no longer required ²	Doors unlocked to public. All in-person programming resumes. Screening & contact tracing info no longer required ³	In-person services expand. Screening & contact tracing info no longer required ⁴	Same as “Yellow” – subject to change. Screening & contact tracing info no longer required ⁵

¹ **Applies to:** Town Hall Municipal & Board of Education Offices (see separate listings for Human Services & Parks & Recreation areas), Police Department, All Firehouses/Fire Headquarters, Newington Emergency Medical Services building, Highway Department, all other town-owned buildings not mentioned. **Please call individual Department for specific programming and access information.**

² **Newington Human Services** – please call (860) 665-8590 for specific programming and access information

³ **Newington Parks & Recreation / Mortensen Community Center** - please call (860) 665-8666 for specific programming and access information

⁴ **Newington Senior & Disabled Center** - please call (860) 665-8778 for specific programming and access information

⁵ **Lucy Robbins Welles Library** - please call (860) 665-8700 for specific programming and access information